Report of The Ohio Church Sunday School and Missionary Convention, held at Pleasant Hill, Ohio, June 6 to 9, 1889.

The convention opened by devotional exercises consisting of the reading of 1 Cor. 13 chapter, by Bro. Josiah Kiem, followed by prayer by Bro. M. Shively. Address of welcome by Bro. Kilhefner, saying that the convention had met for mutual benefit, that we might be better qualified to properly discharge our duties, to honor God and save souls.

In behalf of the Pleasant Hill Brethren Church and the people of that vicinity, he cordially welcomed all who came and would come to the convention. He was followed by Bro. J. Allen Miller, in response, saying that the object of every minister in Christ should be to be better prepared for the active duties of a Christian. He said 'we appreciate the kind welcome extended by Bro. Kilhefner, in behalf of the Pleasant Hill church, and we are satisfied that we have gone out from past conventions better prepared for the duties of life, etc.' And in behalf of the Brethren he thanked the church heartily for her welcome and said his prayer was that all might stand firm for our blessed Captain who will finally bring us all home into a grand triumphant convention in the eternal kingdom of God, where parting shall never come.

Both addresses were listened to with great interest.

Next in order was the ROLL CALL OF CHURCHES responded to by the delegates representing them as follows:

Ashland Church—S. E. Shook, A. L. Garber;
Ankenytown—not represented;
Buckeye City—J. Allen Miller;
Bear Creek—Judas Kimmel, Emma Johns;
Bethel—C. E. Deffenbaugh;
Bryan—not represented;
Dayton—Saml. Kiehl, Dr. S. Brumbaugh;
Dry Creek—not represented;
Farmersville—C. A. Coler, Dr. Henkel;
Covington—H. G. Ullery;
Fair Haven—J. P. Brown;
Fair View—J. M. Tombaugh;
Homer—by letter;
Lexington—not represented;
Louisville—Sarah Keim, Josiah Keim;
Mt. Zion—J. Allen Miller, Daniel Hendricks;
North Liberty—not represented;
Pleasant Hill—Isaac Kilhefner, R. E. C. Rench
Silver Creek—Sister Addie Kimmel;
West Independence—Martin Shively;
Winchester—J. S. Steward, Noah Brower;
Concord—J. M. Miller;
Miamisburg—Dan'l. Beechler, Edward Mason;
Little York—E. Mason;
Prattsville, Mich.—not represented.

Following the roll call of churches was the appointing of committee on committees by the chairman as follows: A. Pearson, H. G. Ullery, R. E. C. Rench.

Said committee reported as follows: Committee on Mission Work, Isaac Kilhefner, Josiah Keim. Martin Shively.

Committees on General Church work, P. J. Brown, S. Kiehl, D. Hendricks.

Committee on S. S. Work, Sister Sarah Keim, Mary J. Duncan, Bro. J. A. Miller,

NOON.

1.30. P. M.—Convention opened by singing followed by prayer, by Bro. S. Kiehl.

Business.—1st. A motion was made by Bro. P. J. Brown as follows: 'I move that whilst this is a convention for the State of Ohio we extend the courtesies of the convention to all members of the Brethren church whether living in Ohio or not. Carried.

2nd. The presentation of business by the delegates. Papers and letters were read and referred to the proper committee to prepare answers and present to the convention for consideration.

A motion was made by Bro. P. J. Brown that Brethren S. H. Bashor and J. Keim be added to the committee on general church work. Carried.

Letters and resolutions presented by delegates as follows,

By P. J. Brown from the Fair Haven Church:

We the Fair Heaven Church of the Brethren in council this day send to the Brethren in state convention assembled, greeting. We send Bro. P. J. Brown to sit with you in council and we pray you to guard with the utmost care the doctrine of the gospel our only creed. And it is with sorrow that we see among some of our brethren a tendency to deny the immorality of the soul with its ultimate results the pernicious and baneful *soul sleeping* doctrine. Therefore we ask you to pass the following resolution.

Resolved, That the doctrine of the immortality of the soul is taught in the works of creation is recognized in the wise teachings fo the ancient philosophers and above all is accepted and taught by Christ and his apostles. Therefore we declare in convention assembled that it is dangerous to teach by tract or in any wise through the press or from the pulpit that the soul of man is not immortal and while we are willing to bear with any who may so believe as they hold it as *private property*. we earnestly ask *all* to cease teaching it in a public manner, signed

WM. KIEFER, Pastor
D. J. MILLER, B. F. SWINEHART, Deacons.
D. B. GOOD, Clerk.

The Homer church was represented by letter; letter read and refered to com. on S. S. work.

By J. Allen Miller.—'In as much as Ashland College has been purchased, therefore we ask this convention in behalf of the Brethren of Ohio to accept the school and adopt the constitution of the college and pledge its support.'

Referred to com. Church work,

By Isaac Kilhefner—'Whereas the Home Mission Board has not been able to do efficient work as they would desire to do on account of not being able at all times to get an evangelist to go into the field, *Resolved*, Therefore that this convention select a state Evangelist whom the convention may call whenever they have an opening presented for Mission work.

Refered to com. on Mission work.

Next was a letter from Bro. C. A. Coler of Farmersville, Ohio, asking to be relieved of his position on the Board of Home Missions. Bro. M. Shively reporting a brother, Hazen, from his church making the same request. Both requests referred to com.

Reports were next called for from the Home Mission Evangelists, which were given:

Bro. J. Allen Miller described his trip to Logan, Ohio, for the purpose of holding services in a hall engaged for the purpose, but when arriving there found the hall locked and was refused the use of it, and consequently not having any place to preach he gave up the Logan Mission, and paid back the money he had drawn out of the Home Mission fund. He was sorry he could give no better report.

Report by *Bro. Isaac Kilhefner*. He took a trip through Dark County on a missionary tour; preached a few times at North Star and believed a good work could be done there, but had not time to carry on a meeting long enough; he feared to organize a church and get a few members into the church and then leave them there unorganized, without any one to preach to them; he feared they would become discouraged and lose there zeal for the work, and thought it better to close the meeting and wait till a more suitable time presented itself to carry on the meetings to an organization. Therefore closed without any asccessions, and went to Rose Hill. Here he was very sick for several days and unable to do any work and consequently went home. He thought the prospects are very good for a good work at both places.

Report by *J. P. Brown*, the third Home Missionary: he said he visited Logan County on a missionary tour, and held twelve meetings at a small school-house two miles southwest of Bellfontain, and three meetings at a Granger Hall, four miles southwest of this point; also two meetings in a school house four miles west of Bellfontain. Total number of meetings held, nineteen; number baptized two; number received by relation from the German Baptists, two; total four. Organized them into a branch of the Bear Creek church, elected Bro. Samuel Miller, of Gretna as sect.; and sister Josephine March and sister Libbie Miller as solicitors for Home Mission funds, to report at convention at Pleasant Hill. His expenses were $6.25. Time, 14 days. Received of Home Mission Board, $20.00.

Bro. Roberts, from Rose Hill, now gave a report of his efforts to spread the gospel of Christ in his neighborhood, saying that it is very encouraging to see how eager the people out there are to feast on the pure word of God. He said he had large congregations, preaches in a school house and gave a cordial invitation to the ministering brethren to come and preach for them.

A paper was now presented by Bro. J. Keim, reading as follows:

We would recommend that all regularly organized Brethren Churches, of Ohio, be represented either in person or by letter with proper credentials, in the Annual State Conventions; giving number of members, number of accession, number of losses by removals and by deaths. Referred to committee.

Bro. P. J. Brown and Bro. J. Keim were elected members of the Home Mission Board, to fill the vacancies caused by the resignation of Brethren Coler and Hazen.

Report from Committee on Home Mission was called for next.

Report 1st. We, your committee on Home Mission, accept the resignation of Bro. Coler and Bro. Hazen as members of the Home Mission Board, and recommend that the Board hereafter consist of but three members instead of five and that they be selected within convenient distance of each other. Committee on Home Missions.

Bro. Brown made a motion that the work be done by the convention in regard to the matter of Bro. Hazen and Bro. Coler be reconsidered. Carried.

Bro. Brown then made a motion that Bro. Isaac Kilhefner be chosen for another term on the Home Mission Board. Carried.

Bro. J. Allen Miller then moved that the election of Bro. Brown and Bro. Keim be indefinitely postponed. Carried.

FARTHER REPORT OF HOME MISSION COMMITTEE.

Resolved, That the convention authorize the Board of Home Missions to select a man, sound in the distinction faith of the Brethren church, and of recognized ability as a preacher. as state Evangelist, who shall be sent to all points where calls are made, for preaching and who shall be the public property of the state to assist pastors in holding revival meetings in their various charges, all calls both for mission work and by pastors shall be sent to the Board and the evangelist who is to be under the Board's control will be sent by it.

This report was unanimously accepted.

Again,

We your committee on Home Missions recommend that pastors report to this convention and conventions to be held hereafter the number of out-posts at which they are preaching and the prospects for an ingathering. Report accepted.

Bro. M. Shively moved that the report on above resolution (in regard to evangelist for state) be presented the first thing tomorrow morning. Carried.

The chairman of convention at this point appointed a committee on Queries and Query box as follows, Sister Ida Kimmel, Sister Sue Harrison and Bro. J. M. Miller. Adjourned.

3rd. Session—7.30 P. M

Bro. Bashor delivered his lecture on *Pulpit Reminiscences*. He was greeted with a packed house and many by the windows on the out side, and one may judge from the attention given and by the interest manifested the lecture of two hours proved a great treat, hearing a number of the citizens say next morning they would not have missed that lecture fore one dollar. Bro. Bashor closed his lecture by giving a faint idea of the Johnstown, Pa. calamity, after which a collection was held ammounting to $37.00 and sent to assist in releaving the suffering survivors at Johnstown, in the name of this convention, by a motion by Bro. Bashor.

Adjourned.

4th SESSION, FRIDAY, 9 A. M.

Devotional exercises by Bro. E. Mason, calling on God to send his spirit to rule and guide all the deliberations of the day. The prayer was marked for its force and power and the appropriateness to the occasion.

Business-Report of committee on General Church Work was called for and responded to by committee.

1st. was a report on the resolution offered by J. A. Miller in regard to Ashland College being accepted by the church (as above given.) And that we accept the request without discussion as read. Carried unanimously.

Bro. J. Keim gave a reason for the presentation of above resolution to this convention. That other conventions have taken similar steps, promising to support and sympathize with the college, but Ohio has as yet taken no action in this direction and an expression is wanted from this convention for further encouragement. Bro. J. A. Miller made a statement that it was by request of Bro. Keim that he wrote this resolution and that he was connected with the college work, and consequently took a special interest. He said that sympathies have been received from every direction, in word but there is a time coming when sympathies and expressions will not reach. There will be necessary more than sympathy. Of course we want sympathy and need it, but we want sympathy backed up with *cash*.

P. J. Brown said: 'We are weak and sometimes discouraged, but I for one, am in favor of securing and holding on to Ashland College. We must remember a college cannot spring up in a day, it may take a hundred years for Ashland College to be what it ought to be and I am in favor of accepting it and continue to push on with sympathy and money.'

Bro. A. L. Garber said. He was not personally interested officially in Ashland College, but had $500.00 of money in it earned by hard muscular work, and never expects to have it back again in money but hoped to have the satisfaction of assisting in the establishing such a noble institution is abundant interest on money invested. He made a rousing speech in favor of standing by the college.

Bro. J. Keim, he also was not personally any more interested in Ashland College than any other member of our church ought to be. He said that he had two thousand dollars in cash in it and is still standing by it. He made a strong plea for support in money together with sympathy. He was asked to make a statement of the financial condition of the college at present which he did to the satisfaction of all present.

He said we paid $18500.00 for the real estate which cost originally $65,000.00. We paid $642.50 for the personal property consisting in furniture, etc., which is paid for and one fourth of the realestate is paid. We hold notes to the amount of $7500.00, we consider good, and we have $2000.00 in conditional pledges to be paid in cash or its equivalent, when the $7500.00 in notes is paid and the remaining $5000.00 (including the interest) coming due July 17, '89 and we have only a little money on hand at present to meet it. He said he had a complaint to make against Indiana's work because they accepted the college and appointed three trustees, etc., and have never made up a dollar in money for it, that if this convention does not make an attempt to do something financially for the college he would go home from this convention greatly discouraged and would never do another thing for the college, because if the church will not do anything to show her interest in it he will drop it and quit, but that if any attempt is is made to save it he will stick to it, till all is safe.

Bro. I. Kilhefner said: 'We have now heard the financial condition of the college from Bro. Keim and we can see it just as it is and now if we make but one more strong pull we can pull it up to the top of the hill, then it will run easy on the other side.'

He said we must have this college because if we lose it the church will be disgraced forever. He said, 'just see what the college has done, we have before used several of her graduates and we are not ashamed of them either. I would just as soon have a son under the supervision of Bro. Shook as under my own. We have the proper surroundings there and where can we send our boys and girls that they may receive more for their money invested than at Ashland College?' He said there was a movement on foot by Bro. J. Keim to get a certain number of men to each pledge $25.00 for the college and that he had his $25.00 in bank for that purpose, as one to join this list of $25.00 men. He then gave an account of his sacrifices together with Bro. Tombaugh's and Bro. Shook's.

Bro. S. H. Bashor said: There is awlays a business way to do bnsiness and that it is the fault of the Board of Trustees in a great degree for the present financial affairs, because if, as was stated, there are these notes amounting to $7500.00 and are collectable, why are they not collected long ago? He suggested that they be collected at once, that any Progressive who will not pay his note now will never pay it and if they must resort to law to collect them do it now. He also stated that our brethren had done a noble work in paying money toward securing the college. He said, 'The brethren of our church have done more financially for the number of them than any other church in existence. He said we have already paid on the college dept $15000.00 and over $200,000.00 for building churches etc. besides. He said our brethren have done nobly and we will, if done properly, save the college. It can be done by a slow process by one and two dollar payment.

He then made a motion that this convention accept the college and urge upon the trustees the advisability of collecting these notes now due on the college and the sending out of proper canvassers to raise the debt entirely. That the notes against the the college be drawn on so long a time as possible so as to lift the debt by slow processes.

Bro. Henkel said: He thought this college should be a personal matter with every brother and sister in the brotherhood and that Bro. Bashor's plan should be pushed as quick as possible. He said he could not understand why so many of our brethren send their children to other colleges and that it should not be so. He said, 'Our college is the best in the United States, and our church is the best church in the world. I believe the old school of medicine is the best in the world. I was raised a Lutheran but I do not believe that way now because I feel that our church is the best. It has the best looking people in it and I know we can save the college if we make it a personal matter. I would not give a cent for sym-